

CLAIMS

1. A power control system startup method comprising:
5 coupling a high voltage device to receive an input voltage and responsively generate a bias current and couple the bias current to an output transistor of the high voltage device;
coupling a switch element to shunt the bias current
10 away from the output transistor when an output voltage is less than a first value; and
coupling the output transistor of the high voltage device to generate an output current that is greater than the bias current when the output voltage is greater than
15 the first value.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein coupling the high voltage element to receive the input voltage and responsively generate the bias current and couple the bias
20 current to an output transistor of the high voltage element includes coupling a first current carrying electrode of a J-FET transistor to receive the input voltage, coupling second current carrying electrode of the J-FET transistor to a first current carrying electrode of
25 the output transistor, coupling a resistor to receive a current from the second current carrying electrode of the J-FET transistor and couple the bias current to a control electrode of the output transistor.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein coupling the switch
30 element to shunt the bias current away from the output transistor when the output voltage is less than the first value includes coupling a pinch resistor to shunt the bias current away from the output transistor.

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4. The method of claim 3 wherein coupling the pinch resistor to shunt the bias current away from the output transistor includes coupling a first terminal of the pinch resistor to the control electrode of the output transistor and a second terminal to an output for forming the output voltage.

5. The method of claim 2 wherein coupling the switch element to shunt the bias current away from the output transistor when the output voltage is less than the first value includes coupling a comparator coupled MOS transistor to shunt the bias current away from the output transistor.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein coupling the comparator coupled MOS transistor to shunt the bias current away from the output transistor includes coupling a first current carrying electrode of the comparator coupled MOS transistor to the control electrode of the output transistor, coupling a second carrying electrode of the comparator coupled MOS transistor to an output, and coupling a control electrode of the comparator coupled MOS transistor to receive a reference voltage.

7. The method of claim 6 further including stacking two threshold adjusted MOS transistors to form the reference voltage.

8. A power control system startup method comprising:
 receiving an input voltage;
 generating a first current from the input voltage;
 shunting the first current to an output of a startup
 5 circuit;
 using the first current to form an output voltage at
 the output; and
 using a second current to form the output voltage
 when the output voltage is greater than a first value
 10 wherein the second current is greater than the first
 current.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein using the second
 current to form the output voltage at the output includes
 15 coupling the bias current to an output transistor of the
 startup circuit when the output voltage is greater than
 the first value.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein shunting the first
 20 current to the output of the startup circuit includes
 enabling a pinch resistor to couple the first current to
 the output.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein enabling the pinch
 25 resistor to couple the first current to the output
 includes coupling the pinch resistor between the output
 and a control electrode of an output transistor of the
 startup circuit, and enabling the pinch resistor when the
 output voltage is less than a pinch-off voltage of the
 30 pinch resistor.

12. The method of claim 8 wherein shunting the first
 current to the output of the startup circuit includes
 enabling a comparator transistor to couple the first
 35 current to the output.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein enabling the
comparator transistor to couple the first current to the
output includes forming a reference voltage, applying the
reference voltage to a control electrode of the comparator
5 transistor, and coupling the comparator transistor between
a control electrode of an output transistor and the
output.

14. The method of claim 8 further including coupling
10 the output to a voltage return to disable the power
control system.

15. A power control system method comprising:
generating a first output current at an output of a
startup circuit responsively to a first value of an output
voltage; and

5 coupling the output to a voltage return to disable
the output voltage.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein generating the
first output current at the output of the startup circuit
10 responsively to the first value of the output voltage
includes coupling a bias current to the output and
disabling an output transistor of the startup circuit.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein coupling the bias
15 current to the output and disabling the output transistor
of the startup circuit includes shunting the bias current
from a control electrode of the output transistor to the
output of the startup circuit.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein shunting the bias
20 current from the control electrode of the output
transistor to the output of the startup circuit includes
enabling a pinch resistor to shunt the bias current.

19. The method of claim 16 wherein generating the
first output current at the output of the startup circuit
25 responsively to the first value of the output voltage
includes enabling the output transistor to generate the
first output current.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein enabling the
output transistor to generate the first output current
includes coupling a J-FET transistor to a high voltage
input to generate a bias current, and coupling the bias
35 current to the output transistor to enable the output
transistor.